

Conestoga teacher elected in Stratford

By Greg Bisch

Conestoga College instructor Michael Dale has found a second job. On Nov. 10 he was elected to Stratford city council.



Michael Dale

Dale, a part-time teacher of Canadian history and political science at Doon campus, said he was a little surprised at winning.

"Stratford is a little more conservative," said Dale. "I'm a well known left winger and the core left-wing supporters (in Stratford) have seemed to have rallied around me."

This is not the first time Dale has run for city council, however. He ran in 1982 but didn't get elected.

Dale said now was the perfect time for him to run again because his personal life is starting to come together. He has recently finished his masters degree in political science at University of Waterloo and landed his teaching job at Conestoga this past September.

"I've really enjoyed this past term here at the college," he said. "The students seem to be reacting well. At least that is what I get from their reactions."

He added jokingly that his students may just be good actors.

"That could be the case for all I know," said Dale. "But, I don't think so."

The 44-year-old said his interest in politics goes back a long way.

"There were only two things back in the 1950s that my father let me stay up late for," said Dale. "One was hockey, the other was politics."

Dale said his father influenced his political opinions a great deal.

"My father was a raging conservative," he said about his now deceased father. "He was a political animal. No matter what stance you took, he would take the opposite just for the debate. He would argue black was white if he had to."

"I think your parents can influence you in one of two ways. Either you follow in their footsteps or you end up the complete opposite."

Dale conceded that, politically at least, he is the opposite of his dad. As well, his left-wing stance was influenced by the 1960s.

In fact, he said his haircut has just recently taken a shorter, more conservative style, after he made the mistake of having his hair cut at a hairdressing school in Stratford.

While running for election in Stratford, Dale said he decided to keep the campaign simple. He advertised in the Stratford Beacon Herald. "Everybody who votes in Stratford reads the Beacon," he said.

Dale's campaign concentrated on his proposals for handling provincial downloading on municipalities. He said municipalities could not afford to side step the problem any further.

Dale will be one of 10 councillors for Stratford.



'Tis the season

Lisa Bullock (left) and Sabina Kayser, first-year graphic design and advertising, enjoy a snowball fight with fellow students during the first snowfall of the year Nov. 12.

(Photo by Ross Bragg)

Famous soldier tells youth to watch power-tripping

By Hunter Malcolm

Billed as Canada's most famous soldier, retired major-general Lewis MacKenzie spoke to roughly 400 high school students about leadership in today's world, at a free afternoon seminar, at Bingemans, Nov. 13.

The hour-long address, entitled Meeting Tomorrow's Challenge, was sponsored by the Alcohol and Drug Recovery Association of Ontario, and preceded Drug Awareness Week, which ran from Nov. 17 to 21.

MacKenzie spoke with the color and presence of a man who, in his 57 years, has developed a considerable and broad perspective of how the world works.

MacKenzie, so often seen on the news wearing the flack jacket and signature blue helmet of the United Nations, was, among other assignments, chief of staff of the UN's Protection Force in the former Yugoslavia in 1992.

He had no trouble keeping the full attention of the students, as he contrasted Canada's international peacekeeping roles to its own domestic issues.

Within that context, MacKenzie offered a list of six practical tips on leadership, which he said he has found to be true in his experiences of considerable responsibility.

First on the list, MacKenzie said to be yourself and to avoid power-tripping when assuming positions of responsibility.

Secondly, he suggested leading by wandering about, to keep in touch and be a part of what one's subordinates are up to.

Thirdly, listen to others.

"It is a sign of strength to be able to recognize good ideas from other people," he said.

Fourth, set meaningful and achievable challenges.

"No one ever bragged about doing things that were easy," he said. The fifth tip on leadership

was to prepare workers for the tasks they will be responsible for in your name, by imposing personal standards and style.

Finally, MacKenzie said on bad days, be an actor.

"Don't be moody. Being constant will allow people to be more comfortable and therefore more effective," he said.

Tying in the idea of responsibility, MacKenzie cited Canada's role in the international forum as a destiny presupposed by its own good fortune and comforts at home.

"It's both a blessing and a curse," he said. "Canada is always on the list when a country in trouble applies to the UN for relief."

Concluding, MacKenzie said peacekeeping is merely one chapter in developing countries and peace is not just the absence of killing.

"A country is more than just constitutional documents. It's an affair of the heart, and that is what needs to be sold today," he said.



Retired major-general Lewis MacKenzie speaks to students at Bingemans Nov. 13.

(Photo by Hunter Malcolm)

Federal MPs get back to basics

Local town hall meetings mark return to grassroots politics

By Richard Berta

"Paul Martin has said he would never allow the country's finances to get out of control again," said Karen Redman, Liberal MP for Kitchener.

The occasion for this statement was a town hall meeting held in St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Kitchener Nov. 13.

Redman is currently a member of the federal government's finance committee, a posting which she says has become all the more important because of the emphasis on fiscal responsibility.

Kitchener's town hall is but one out of 301 in a broader nation-wide consultation process whereby MPs seek feedback from their constituents on the economic progress made so far as well as recommendations for the 1998-99 budget. There were approximately 50 participants in the town hall.

The issues discussed included debt reduction, job creation and increasing investments.

One problem which Redman said is being resolved is the deficit.

She said the deficit stood at almost \$9 billion in 1996-97, which is down from \$42 billion in 1993-94. She said the deficit is to be eliminated next year.

Redman also said that 279,000 jobs had been created since the start of 1997, most of them in the private sector and full-time. She pointed out that there was an additional 63,000 jobs created for youth alone.

But Redman said there was still much that needed to be done.

"Of course, the level of youth unemployment is still unacceptably high," she said.

"This is why we are in favor of increasing assistance to students by investing in apprenticeship programs, by better listening to business and industry and by the establishing the education endowment fund."

Redman added that education was largely a provincial domain.

But the most pressing questions at the town hall included federal transfer payments to provinces and the cutting of social services. Under the pre-budget proposal, the government was proposing to



Liberal MP Karen Redman and moderator Rick Hutfloetz listen to concerns during a town hall meeting held at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church Nov. 13.

(Photo by Corey Jubenville)

increase health care transfers from \$11 billion to \$12.5 billion.

Most participants were skeptical of the provinces' willingness to allocate the transfer payments accordingly.

"There should be more strings attached to how the provinces spend the money," participant Peter MacLean said. "There aren't enough now."

Redman joked that the monies allocated to the provinces should be marked in some way so as to ensure they are spent for their designated purpose.

Later, the participants were divided into groups and each assigned to talk about a specific issue.

Some of the recommendations put forward by group representatives for the new budget included halting further cuts to health, education and research and development.

At the same time, most participants agreed the reduced spending was necessary.

"We must put back more money into research and development," said group representative Julie MacDonald, "so that we can lessen the brain drain."

Margaret Hennig, another representative, said we should forget about reducing taxes because the debt needs to be serviced.

"We need to squeeze more

efficiency and productivity out of existing programs."

Participants were agreed on spending the surplus from 1996-97 fiscal year to eliminate the deficit.

On the issue of tax allocation, group representative Derek Nighbor said 50 per cent of taxes should be allocated to social services and 50 per cent to servicing the debt.

Nighbor said for maximum investment returns there should be substantial investments in technology.

Nighbor also said his group agreed on placing a work incentive for welfare recipients.

"We shouldn't penalize someone on welfare who's worked for two or three days," he said.

During the evening's analysis of issues, Redman did not refrain from mentioning the role of her party in contributing to the federal debt.

"The country's economic straits are the responsibility of every party, including ours, who spent like there was no tomorrow," she said.

"This is something which we must all own up to and resolve."

Carl Zehr defeats Christy in Kitchener mayoral race

By Rachel Pearce

During the municipal elections Nov. 10, Kitchener residents voted in Carl Zehr to replace Mayor Richard Christy with a resounding 2-1 vote ratio.

The new mayor's coordinator, Linda Fryfogel, said Zehr was unavailable for comment as he is very busy preparing for his new post. Zehr will officially replace Christy at the new city council inaugural meeting Dec. 1.

It was for the second time that the 52-year-old accountant Zehr had run against Christy for the top job on city council.

The first time was in 1994, when Zehr placed third to Christy in the race to fill the seat of former mayor Dom Cardillo.

This time, the race had a more positive outcome for Zehr, who collected 21,970 votes, about 60 per cent of the ballots. Christy received 11,241.

In an interview after his concession speech, Christy told the K-W Record that Zehr's campaign attacked him personally and focused more on style than on substance.

Christy, a former city councillor and a sociology professor at Wilfred Laurier University, based his campaign on a fair tax policy, a commitment to attract new businesses to Kitchener and a pledge to continue downtown revitalization.

Zehr, also a former city councillor and regional councillor,

said he would concentrate on economic development and would work to manage the provincial downloading, with an eye to maintaining services and low tax rates.

Zehr also pledged to be a "full-time" mayor in Kitchener, a statement some say was a dig at Christy who continued teaching at the university during his term at the city helm.

Christy had also received criticism for his lofty attitude as mayor. Tom Galloway, a Kitchener councillor of six years, said, "I think style probably was a key element in this election."

Galloway said Christy did have some style issues and did some things without consulting council, like making expenditures.

While Galloway qualified his statement about Christy's spending by saying, "these were not big ticket items" he said Christy eventually saw the necessity of keeping council informed.

As for future changes in the style of Kitchener council, Galloway said, "I don't think you're going to see too much change."

Galloway, who also works at the University of Waterloo as the director of planned operations, said council will retain its focus on the revitalization of the downtown core.

He said it will take about 10 years to get the city in shape, and council will remain committed to that goal.

However, he added, the new council will probably get the

community more involved in the project. But in terms of priorities and objectives, Galloway said council will stay pretty much the same, because nine out of 11 council members were there last term, but some things will change.

"We're going to be faced with all the budget ramifications of provincial downloading," he said.

Dealing with the downloading of the cost of various services to the local level will most likely be a major preoccupation of the new city council for the next six to nine months, he said, because it involves more structural changes than we have seen in the past 10 years.



Waiting for Santa Claus

Jen Struck, early childhood education, reads to some children before the Kitchener Santa Claus parade at Fairview Park Mall Nov. 15.

(Photo by Corina Hill)

Back to the bargaining table

Negotiations resume with students' year in the balance

By Corey Jubenville

"To doubt everything or to believe everything are two equally convenient solutions; both dispense with the necessity of reflection."

Jules Henri Poincaré

With negotiators from college faculty and the board of regents scheduled to restart bargaining Nov. 20, deep divisions remain between the two sides.

The resumption marks the first time the two sides have sat down together since the faculty union voted to reject the latest management proposal.

On Oct. 16, faculty unions across Ontario voted by 95 per cent to reject the contract put forward by the bargaining team representing the council of regents.

One of the most contentious issues in the contract is differentiated staffing.

Under the current system, faculty are classified as either professors or instructors. The difference between the two positions is that professors can help develop curriculum and receive more pay.

"It's not about flexibility, it's about power."

Ted Montgomery,
union negotiator

Instructors are limited to the acquisition of a manipulative skill or technique, said Ted Montgomery.

"One college tried to make all their nursing teachers instructors," said the head of the union negotiating team. "Faculty are not going to tolerate this. Instructors get paid

\$20,000 less, so it's not going to fly."

But from the management side, it's an issue of flexibility. Conestoga's president, John Tibbits, called it a complex issue. He said he thinks the nature of teaching is changing.

"Every situation in life is not the same," he said. "There's a big difference between teaching communications and doing marking, as opposed to standing in a computer lab and giving a 20-minute overview and then having students work on assignments. That's a different kind of work."

In examining the situation, Tibbits, co-chairman of the bargaining team for the council of regents, said universities have full professors, associate professors, lecturers, markers and tutors. Colleges are almost all professors.

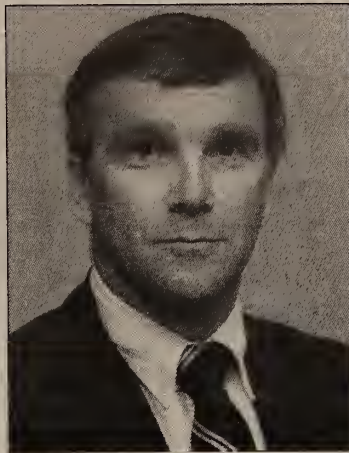
"The thing is, a professor is somebody who is supposed to be writing curriculum," Tibbits said. "We believe there are a number of teaching jobs where you can have people just teaching the curriculum and not necessarily developing (it)."

Out of around 7,000 teachers at colleges across Ontario, only 40 or 50 are classified as instructors, said Tibbits.

He said management was looking for flexibility, and the wording of the present contract makes it very difficult to use the instructor category. He added the issue was important from a student's point of view, because of the need to keep costs under control.

To make differentiated staffing an even thornier issue, it incorporates one of this decade's hottest issues, job security.

The proposal set forth by management states, "No current full-time professor in the bargaining unit will be laid off or reclassified as a direct result of amending



John Tibbits
(Photo by John Sawicki)

"We find it very difficult to discuss anything with them, as far as how to make the system better."

John Tibbits, co-chairman

the class definition of instructor."

The sticking point, said Montgomery, is the word direct.

Montgomery said he fears management could implement funding cuts to a program, lay off professors, then hire instructors to fill the gap and present the opportunity for professors to be recalled as instructors.

He added, "So now I say I am being laid off as a direct result of amending the class definition. Their response is 'No, you're being laid off as a direct result of our changing the funding.'"

He said it makes no sense to amend the class definition unless this is what management is planning to do to generate savings.

In the last three years, Montgomery said the union has lost between 20 and 25 per cent of its full-time faculty, with an increasing number of students.

"It's not about flexibility at all," he said. "It's about power."

Montgomery said he attended a meeting held at Conestoga for faculty to hear what the contract was about, and faculty here felt the same as everyone else.

"They had no interest in it (the contract proposal) and they did not speak well of Mr. Tibbits' ideas," he said. "There weren't any (faculty) who shared his view."

Tibbits takes a different point of view.

"I know our faculty aren't being given the full explanation and we aren't permitted to go down and talk to them," said Tibbits. "I think they're being sold a bill of goods by (the union) in Toronto."

So another problem rises in the process. There seems to be little trust between the two sides.

Walter Boettger, head of Conestoga's union, said the next step to getting negotiations on track is dialogue. But right now, both sides are accusing each other of not moving, and nothing is developing.

"We find it very difficult to discuss anything with them as far as how to make the system better, unless it involves more benefits for the members," Tibbits said. "More job security, more money, meaning

higher quality, seems to be the issue."

He said there had been misinformation from the union, and he found it very disappointing. For example, he said people were being told they would be laid off or down classified.

"We gave them a guarantee in writing," said Tibbits. "If you and I did this, some people would say, to use the polite term, we misinformed the faculty."

Teaching is changing, Tibbits said, so we think we should be able to use differentiated staffing.

"What we're looking for is more flexibility in the use of our teaching resources and greater productivity," he said.

Montgomery said he sees it differently.

"If Tibbits really wanted to guarantee (job security) he wouldn't have put in these kinds of weasel words. He would have just said nobody will be laid off, flat out."

Boettger, who said he has a good working relationship with Tibbits, said vagaries in the contract were one problem, calling it a "trust me" thing.

It might be okay with Tibbits as president, said Boettger, but what about the guy after him?

Neither side wants to think about a strike at this point, but given the numerous issues which have to be resolved, and the depth of difference between the two sides, it could become a real possibility.

"Both sides, in some ways, are reticent, and I'm not sure how things can get kick started," Boettger said.

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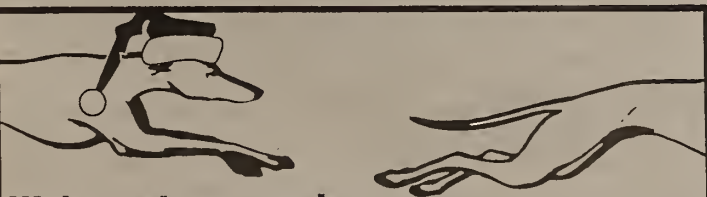
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How cold is it? Wind chill factor not exact science

In 1939, two Antarctic explorers, Paul Siple and Charles Passel, began research on the effects of wind speed on temperature.

I guess with little else to do than think about the cold, the two researchers watched cans of water freeze — noticing that some cans froze more quickly the windier it got.

With the publication of their dissertation, *Adaptation of the Explorer to the Climate of Antarctica*, we began using the term wind chill factor. And, for better or for worse, we have been talking about wind chill whenever we talk about the weather ever since.

In recent times, however, people who know about weather and people who know about thermodynamics (you know the type) have been questioning the scientific grounds of the whole concept.

What is accepted is that we feel colder when it is windier. This, according to Environment Canada, is for two reasons.

First, the blanket of warm air surrounding our body is whisked away when it is windy.

Second, the wind draws heat away from our bodies by quickly evaporating any moisture that forms on the skin.

For the rocket scientist in the house, it works like this: $T(wc) = 0.045(5.27V^{0.5} + 10.45 - 0.28V)(T - 33) + 33$, where $T(wc)$ = wind chill, V = the wind speed in kilometres per hour and T = the temperature in degrees Celsius.

Simple right? Well the only problem is, and this is what gets scientists' lab coats in a knot, there are too many other factors affecting how cold it feels to say anything more grounded than "the more windy it is, the colder it is."

How you are dressed, how sunny it is, how much you are moving and even how quickly you are breathing will all affect how cold it feels as much as wind speed will.

So having a numerical wind chill factor makes about as much sense as



Ross Bragg

having a downhill-skiing-naked-on-a-sunny-day factor. And what really gets these guys riled up is when we get wind chill mixed up with temperature.

Getting back to Antarctica, higher wind speeds meant some cans of water froze faster, but the water was not any colder on windier days.

Antifreeze in your radiators that is good to -40 C is good to -40 C whether you are driving with your hood open into 100 kilometre winds or sitting parked inside a meat locker.

More and more, however, we hear wind chill and actual temperature used interchangeably. On the radio we might hear, "It is -50 C today with the wind chill."

This does not mean we should underestimate the effects of wind on temperature. Higher wind speeds and colder temperatures can become a deadly combination. Cold and windy days mean we have to dress warmer and be close to shelter.

Wind chill sceptics, however, want us to be aware but not misled, preferring terms like cold, very cold and extremely cold over numerical wind chill readings.

Probably at no time in history has the average person in the western world been so unaffected by the weather. We have moved from farms to well-built homes, we wear high-tech fibers and drive in heated cars on salted roads.

Our interest in the weather, however, is growing stronger. The popularity of The Weather Network and giant color weather maps in newspapers suggest a higher understanding and growing obsession about weather.

Our use of wind chill, as with humidex, is one way we exaggerate weather to play into our weather obsession.

Maybe when someone says, "It's -30 C below out there," the proper response should be, "My thermometer says -20 C, I am wearing long underwear, and I don't feel quite that cold, thank you."

How to Keep warm with SPOKE!



Let it snow — maybe

A warm-blooded woman encounters cruel winters

By the time they're in their twenties, most Canadians have long since tired of winter. They may get a thrill from the first snowfall of the season or planning a ski weekend, but the cold white blanket outside that they wake up to everyday is as much a part of life as having 10 toes.

Snow still fascinates me. Until I was 17, my only experience of it was scraping the frost from the back of the freezer with my fingers and trying to form a ball before it melted.

Then, in my last year of high school, I went on the class ski trip to Vermont. You can imagine 30 Bermudian teenagers, many of whom had previously seen snow only in photographs and movies, staring in awe at the snow-covered mountains of Killington.

Unfortunately, as it was April, the snow around our condominiums was pretty scarce. But we made the most of it that first evening. We started at toddler level, by admiring our footprints, and moved on to catching the flakes on our tongues, which was difficult because it wasn't really snowing at the time. Within half an hour, we had formed two camps and were deeply entrenched in a late-night snowball war.

The next morning, I walked to the ski lodge with a friend. We came upon real snow bank — something we'd only dreamed of before. A glint appeared in her eye. She promptly lay down and began to make snow angels, an instinct that must have been programmed into the human race before the first snow ever fell. I followed suit and we arrived at the lodge sometime later, covered in snow from head to foot and decidedly happy.

By the end of our five-day crash course on



Alison Shadbolt

the slopes, my relationship with snow was on shaky ground and I was less than enamored with skiing. However, hot chocolate (something I seldom drink in Bermuda) and I had formed a lasting bond.

When the time came less than a year later to apply to universities, I decided, like most Bermudians, to attend a Canadian one.

I arrived in Guelph one dark, cold February night to look at the school before I accepted a place there. The snow was thick on the ground, and it was much colder than Vermont in April.

However, I was wearing every piece of clothing I owned (I already knew the trick of dressing in layers), so I figured I could handle Canadian winters and packed my bags that summer. After all, it must only snow from late December to early March or they'd have no need to sing, "I'm dreaming of a white Christmas."

It was Thanksgiving when the first flakes fell, and I decided that it definitely wasn't a Canadian who wrote *White Christmas*. After that there were many firsts, good and

bad, like the first time my roommate and I decided it was too cold to walk to school and stayed in our living-room all day, bundled up in blankets, watching soaps. Or the first time my forehead froze

and my face was locked into a frowning grimace as I fought the wind and snow to the next warm doorway.

I'm beginning my fifth and final (at least for now) Canadian winter, and I'm still surprised by the beauty of snow and shocked by the pain of living in a giant freezer for half of the year. I know one thing — I'll never look at winters in Bermuda the same way again.

I decided that it definitely wasn't a Canadian who wrote *White Christmas*.

SPOKE

Keeping Conestoga College connected

SPOKE is published and produced weekly by the journalism students of Conestoga College.

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COMMENTARY

Early freeze not popular at Conestoga, survey shows

Students find ways to beat the cold

Story and photos
by Hunter Malcolm

The first blast of winter has hit and the cold wind and flakey white stuff have brought closure to the season of warmth, which now seems so far away.

Conestoga students around the frosty Doon campus were asked about their feelings regarding the early onslaught of winter and what their favorite way to stay warm was.

Overall, the general consensus indicated that this early freeze is not popular among students.

However, there were many suggestions on how to beat the cold.

Chris MacLean, accounting, said that she won't be able to head south because of her classes.

"I just hope the weatherman is right when he says we're in for a beautiful and mild winter this year," she said.

Rick Eaton, mechanical engineering technician, said he also doesn't like the cold.

"The best way to keep warm is beside a nice fireplace with a six foot, 36-24-34 female companion to help me out," he said.

Gisselle Poessy, first year

accounting, said she thinks winter sucks but that personal intimacy was the best remedy.

"Sex is best," she said.

Melissa Spilek, materials management, said she has the greatest success against the cold by keeping her clothes on.

"Winter kind of sucks, but I just layer on more clothing to keep warm," she said.

Matt Gunzel, first year robotics, comes from the far away Caribbean said he absolutely despises the winter here.

"Being with a nice hot toddy by a fire and keeping sweaty all night long is my idea of keeping warm," he said.

Tyler Murdoch, mechanical engineering technician, said he doesn't like

the winter at all.

"I wish it was summer all the time. There are fewer girls wearing skirts around now," he said. "Snuggling up to a nice warm woman helps."

Whether people cope with winter with their clothes on or off, the season is Canada's annual acid-test of spirit, and makes the far-off spring arrival so sweet.

"The best way to keep warm is beside a nice fireplace with a six-foot, 36-24-36 female companion to help me out."

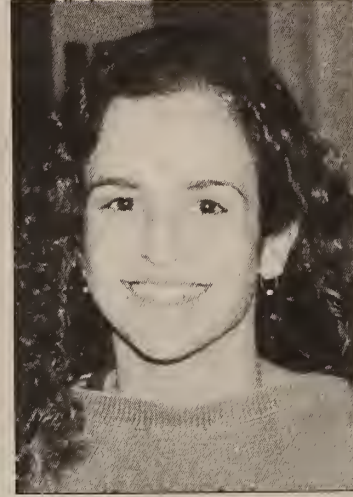
Rick Eaton,
mechanical engineering
technician student



Chris MacLean,
accounting



Rick Eaton,
mechanical engineering



Gisselle Poessy,
accounting



Melissa Spilek,
materials management



Matt Gunzel,
robotics



Tyler Murdoch,
mechanical engineering

Editorial

Mail is important

Yet again, people are talking about Canada's mail system.

But more so than past disputes, the most recent discussions regarding Canada Post and its workers have prompted more people to question the basic value of a national postal service.

As the postal workers' strike deadlines have approached, experts and others who send and receive mail have been considering the implications, if any, of a nation-wide walkout.

While Canadians have been entering an era in which many traditional values and methods are opening up to alternative solutions, many of us have also familiarized ourselves with alternative means of communication. The telephone, of course, is the most common communication device and rates are dropping as the market becomes more competitive.

But the concern most relevant where the postal system is involved is written communication.

The alternatives here are several. Courier, fax and electronic mail are about as common as the pony express.

Already, courier services are hardly necessary for letters since the advent of the fax machine and its rapid rise to popularity. Now, even the fax is losing its star status as e-mail has become

the quick connection for anyone who is computer literate and can hook up to the Internet.

As the pace of life becomes increasingly insane, those who rely on communication for their financial survival are finding more immediate links with their suppliers, partners and clientele. They require a speed that no general postal service provides.

Then there are those who depend on communication systems for personal purposes.

Often, they too desire the speed, convenience and even entertainment value of e-mail over the more time consuming monotony of preparing a letter for the walk to the post office and the wait in postal bins.

Still, with so many using Purolator and Compuserve, there remains a demand for 45 cent pictures of the queen and red, blue and white bordered air mail envelopes.

For some, using the regular mail routine to send and receive a hand-written letter just adds that personal touch which so many modern forms of communication lack today.

After all, it's beginning to look a lot like Christmas, and not everyone can be home for the holidays.

Perhaps life could go on minus Canada Post, but it just wouldn't be the same without it.

Today's union negotiators should learn give and take

We just recovered from a two-week walkout by Ontario's 126,000 teachers and faced what may have been an illegal postal strike. Are illegal work stoppages becoming the norm in Canada?

If so, it is teaching the next generation of Canadians, who will lead this nation, that disputes are solved in one manner: walking away.

Negotiations must be a process of give and take. But, as we witnessed with the discussions between the Ontario government and the teachers' unions, grown-ups in this country don't play by the rules.

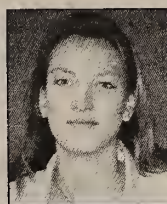
The same situation is unfolding with Canada Post and the Canadian Union of Postal Workers.

The union members want their wage hike and they're not willing to compromise.

These three groups of people, the Ontario government, teachers and postal workers are adults, but most importantly they are parents, raising children and instilling morals.

Nobody can get 100 per cent of what they want. You have to compromise, even though sometimes it hurts.

This lesson is taught to us in kindergarten. You want to play



Erica
Ayliffe

with the paints and Billy does too. You start to argue, your teacher interrupts you and tells you to share, to compromise.

Kids learn this valued lesson and then they see their parents or their parent's friends walking away from their jobs because they can't learn to negotiate.

The people of this country need to consider the lessons they are teaching our young. Perhaps, they need to be taught the lessons our children are learning.

Take for instance the teachers strike. Millions of children from across Ontario witnessed their educators striking and yelling obscenities at teachers who crossed the picket line, teachers who decided that a strike wasn't the answer to Bill 160.

These same kids have probably seen fights and arguments on the playground. Disputes that have been broken up by these same striking teachers who claim yelling and pushing are not the way to solve problems.

Instead of walking away from their jobs illegally, teachers should have sacrificed one day's pay, instead of two weeks, to publish a pamphlet outlining their difficulties with Bill 160.

They would have gained a lot

more public support if Ontarians were informed of the issues. Instead, they decided to walk away from their problems using illegal tactics to try and accomplish their means. It didn't work, the bill still has not been abolished.

This lesson is taught to us in kindergarten. You want to play with the paints and Billy does too. You start to argue, your teacher interrupts you and tells you to share, to compromise.

What has been abolished, though, is our children's ability to realize that disputes can be solved in a rational way, using words not action.

Before any other union in this country decides to strike, they should look at one of the many valuable lessons that are taught to us as children.

Disagreements and problems can be worked out using negotiations. It's a little bit of give and take.

Broadcasting banquet well attended

World needs broadcasters, says speaker

By Barbara Ateljevic

Approximately 120 people showed up at Conestoga's broadcasting awards banquet, held at the Transylvania Club in Kitchener, that featured awards for excellence in broadcasting.

The banquet, held Nov. 14, had guest speaker Hal Blackadar, general manager of Shaw Broadcasting, which includes 102.1 The Edge and Energy 108.

"I just want you to know why broadcasting is not only great, but why the world sort of needs us," said Blackadar. "Conestoga's (broadcasting program) is as good as it gets."

Blackadar said Conestoga's program is relevant and hands-on, and includes real-life events. He congratulated the 30 students that are accepted each year from hundreds of applicants.

Blackadar spoke to students about the different types of media, including radio, television, newspapers and the Internet. He encouraged students to get a head start in the program in their first year, because "the program foundation can only take you so far", he said. This included building contacts and getting your name and areas of interest out to



Hal Blackadar, general manager of Shaw Broadcasting.

(Photo by Barbara Ateljevic)

potential employers.

The creative director for Blackadar created an amusing tape that spoke about the real world of broadcasting and what it's really like to be in the business. The tape said potential employers should not be expecting it to be easy. "You're gonna have to suck up to a lot of people," the tape said to a laughing audience. The "real job" included bad shifts, stomach problems, low pay and the station trying to make you feel better by giving you free t-shirts.

"I thought that Blackadar's

speech was right on the money," said broadcasting's co-ordinator Mike Thurnell. "He's a very enthusiastic and very '90s manager. I think he gave a lot of inspiration to our students. I certainly found it very rewarding; it was a very good speech," he said.

Before Blackadar's speech, the guests enjoyed a "country style" meal, which had plates of food on the table so guests could serve themselves. The food included roast beef, schnitzel, mashed potatoes, vegetables and salads.

The awards followed a welcome by Conestoga's president John Tibbits.

The big winner was Brent Whitmore, who won the K.A. MacKenzie Memorial award to recognize innovative use of technology, and a cash award of \$300; the Pat Fitzgerald award for outstanding behaviour and overall contribution who consistently promoted motivation, goodwill, patience, consideration and understanding toward all students and included a cash prize of \$500; the Sony of Canada award to students who show exceptional television/video producing skills with \$500 and the CKCO Betty Thompson Broadcaster of the Year award with a cash prize of \$250.

Peter Hodgson won the Conestoga College Mastercraft award for achievement and excellence in related technical skills at the program level; the Telemedia Broadcast Management award with a cash prize of \$250 to the graduating students with highest academic standing, and the Rogers Cable TV award for programming in the community interest.

Brian Zajac won a CJCS creative award for creative writing and creative production ability, which carried a cash prize of \$250, the Sony of Canada award and the CKCO Betty Thompson Broadcaster of

the Year award.

Henry Haderlein won a CHYM announcing award for excellent announcing skills and development and \$250; the CJOY/Magic FM newsperson of the Year award for student enterprise and expertise in news reporting and \$250, and the CHUM Limited award for excellence in radio programming with a \$500 cash prize.

"The thing that I liked about the dinner is that it went very smoothly," said Thurnell. "It would have been nice to have had it in better weather but we had a good turnout."



Jim St. Marie (left), a retired faculty member of the broadcasting program, presents the Sony of Canada award to Brent Whitmore.

(Photo by Barbara Ateljevic)

Broadcasting coordinator has own radio program

Teacher hosts new age show

By Barbara Ateljevic

Conestoga's broadcasting coordinator has his own new age radio show on Waterloo's community station, CKWR 98.5.

Mike Thurnell has been doing the show since he was approached in September by CKWR and asked if he would do the new age show.

"I've always liked new age music," said Thurnell. "My taste of music is all over the map; I like

everything from hard rock to classical and everything in between. New age is music that I just particularly like."

Listeners can hear Thurnell's show, called Music From a New Age, on Tuesdays from 10 p.m. to midnight.

Thurnell defines new age as a mix of classical, popular, celtic and folk, all blended together. He said it is relaxation and meditation music and is usually instrumental,

but not always. Enya and Yanni are some examples of new age artists, Thurnell said.

Thurnell came to Conestoga two years ago after more than 20 years in the broadcasting industry. "It keeps my finger in the pie," said Thurnell. "It keeps me involved in the broadcasting community and gives me a chance to practise what I preach."

Thurnell said he got his start at CKWR when he was 16 and it is what inspired him to go into broadcasting. He had been volunteering at the station when he graduated from broadcasting at Conestoga in 1979.

"It's like my life turned full circle," Thurnell said.

"I've always liked new age music. My taste in music is all over the map."

Mike Thurnell, Conestoga's broadcasting coordinator

For his radio show, Thurnell said he has full executive power and has the freedom to play whatever he chooses. He said there is a fair amount of work that goes into putting the show together. He not only hosts the show, but also picks the music and puts the show together.

"It's nice to be back in broadcasting, the actual participating side as opposed to just teaching."

Peer tutoring program offers new features

Coordinator says tutoring is a win-win idea

By Victoria Long

The first edition of the peer tutoring information newsletter, the PIT, shows that so far this term, 68 tutors have been trained. The peer tutor program is a win-win idea that allows top-notch students to assist junior students to make the grade while giving tutors valuable teaching experience and a part-time income on campus, peer tutor coordinator Myrna Nicholas said. Although the tutors receive \$8/hour, students only contribute \$3/hour. The college makes up the difference.

The program has been expanded this fall to meet newly recognized needs for general arts and science technology option, and both electronic and mechanical technology and technicians' programs, Nicholas said. For these five programs, last term's tutor shortage is being remedied by time-tabled tutorials, free drop-in sessions where first-year students can come by any week when they need help in certain courses. Nicholas said the schedule was designed so that the time slot allotted to each program is in an open segment of the students' timetable. Statistics are being gathered on the pilot program's use by students signing in when they attend a tutorial.

Another, new direction peer

tutoring has taken this year is a monthly peer health educator seminar in room 1C6. These seminars are team-led by a pair of fifth-semester nursing students and feature topics relevant to a large portion of students. The Nov. 12 meeting dealt with stress management and the Dec. 3 presentation will focus on sleep deprivation. Those who wish to attend may submit questions they wish to have addressed at the seminar to the DSA office.

Nicholas said she wishes the seminars would get more response. "The nursing students do a lot of research so they have a lot of information on hand," she said.

Students with an A or B average who would like to be considered for a peer tutor position, either working one-on-one with another student, or assisting in the Literacy Lab, should talk to Nicholas in the student services office in December when she'll have an idea of how many positions will be available.

This year's OSAP regulations limit earnings permitted before loan amounts to \$600 per calendar year. Last year the limit was \$2,600. Nicholas said, "It may impact next term when students total up their pay stubs," she said, "but I don't yet know how extensively the OSAP change will affect tutor availability."

DSA #'s to Remember

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Fax 519-748-6727
Hotline 519-748-5220 ext 8
E-Mail listen@doonsa.com
WWW www.doonsa.com

DSA Office Hours

Monday to Thursday 9 am - 4 pm
Fridays - 9 am 2 pm
Closed Weekends and Holidays

The Sanctuary Hours

Monday to Thursday 7 am - 7 pm
Fridays 7 am - 5 pm
Closed Weekends and Holidays



Hey!

it's entertainment



Guitarist Gary McGill wins over Sanctuary crowd

story and photo
by Rita Fatila

Guitarist Gary McGill didn't need to read Spoke to know the Sanctuary houses a tough crowd.

He found out first hand at his free nooner Nov. 13, where it took the talented guitarist half an hour to get the attention and applause of students.

McGill, who does a Stompin' Tom Connors tribute act called Bud the Spud, started the show with a rousing acoustic rendition of The Hockey Game that went sadly neglected by the audience.

"This is a good stomping stage," said McGill, who deftly segued into Wynona's Big Brown Beaver by Primus.

After a lackluster response to the song and no response when he asked for requests, McGill switched to his electric guitar and MIDI sequencer which provided back-up music to hundreds of songs, and played Bearcat by David Wilcox.

The audience finally began to wake up, and McGill's playing and David Wilcox impression garnered him spirited applause. McGill, known as "The Rich Little of rock 'n' roll," launched into a Stevie Ray Vaughn song, again imitating the vocals impeccably, as well as the licks.

"When in doubt, play Stevie Ray," McGill told the cheering crowd.

When he asked for requests again, there were loud calls for Huey Lewis, Ozzy Osbourne, Tom Petty and Pearl Jam. One student shouted out for some Santana, only to be told by another student, "Hey man, we only have an hour."

McGill granted a request for Credence Clearwater Revival and Lowest of the Low, as well as throwing in a rendition of One Headlight by The Wallflowers. By the time McGill finished All Along the Watchtower by Jimi Hendrix, all the seats were filled and the back of the Sanctuary was standing room only.

After asking for someone to go on a beer run, McGill made a more earnest request for the audience to sing the "woos" in Werewolves in London. The interaction abilities of the students hadn't reached that point yet, however, so the back-up vocals for both that song and 500 Miles by the Proclaimers turned into a duet between McGill and Gerry Cleaves, vice-president of student affairs for the Doon Student Association, who briefly bodysurfed during the show.

The lady is a Brat

On Nov. 12, Brenda Coombs sat inside Market Square's Gallery 2000 making Christmas dolls.

As one of the artists involved in the collective that maintains the downtown mall's three galleries, Coombs takes one day a week to watch over the galleries and to create art at the same time.

"You'll get something together," she said. "Today I wanted to make angels."

Although Coombs, who has created theatre props, was deftly working with the corn husks, wig hair and sequined material that made up her dolls, her preferred medium is slate. She also paints wild life, caricatures and still life, although she said her favorite genre is fantasy.

Anyone looking at her wide variety of work, however, would be hard pressed to find the name Brenda Coombs. Since the age of 14, Coombs has been known through her art as Brat.

Brat's existence started when the teenaged Coombs created rugs with artwork that could only be seen under black lights. Nicknamed by her customers, Brat sold each of her popular creations for \$100.

"It's how I put myself through high school."

Brat's customers nowadays tend to be people who want murals done in their homes.

"Art is funny that way," she said. "People will come in and look at a painting and say, 'Oh my god, I have to have those colors in my house!'"

Brat, who said she is usually asked to do her cartooning on children's walls, is amazed at some people's quests for an aesthetically pleasing home.

"I can't even believe how much money they'll spend to make it

perfect," she said. "That's why artists are so fussy - because we know the people we're dealing with are just as fussy."

Besides private murals, Brat has also done public murals in downtown Kitchener and Algonquin Park.

She's also had shows in Owen Sound and Waterloo, and has done work as far as Vancouver.

"It's been mostly in Ontario. I haven't stepped outside really."

Brat's work has received attention across the border, however, due to a friend that carried some of her Jamaican, Greek and Indian - influenced cultural art to the United States.

"Mark Anson would take my art down," she said. "He was on the road and would do malls for me. I've been investigating to get up the guts to go to galleries myself."

Brat said she usually joins an art gallery in whatever city she's living in, as well as getting involved in the arts community there. She said Kitchener-Waterloo's arts community is similar to the ones she's encountered in Toronto, Sault Ste. Marie, Thunder Bay and Oakville.

"You've got different opinions, different points of view. I like that. I like it when artists can feed off each other. To me, they're very open-minded."

As she finished that thought, Brat was interrupted by the sudden beeping of the virtual pet she was keeping in her pocket.

"I'm babysitting my son's Tamagotchi," she explained, as she fed it.

Brat said her 10-year-old son, who has a piece in Gallery 2000, can draw as well as his mother.

"I might sign him up as a member. Whatever he decides, I nurture it.

"Being an artist," said Brat, "I tell him, 'Express yourself in moderation.'"



Galleries by the artists, for the artists

The three galleries in downtown Kitchener's Market Square are run by a collective of artists looking out for each other.

The group is made up of about 16 artists who are local, but are frequently out of town as well.

"That's why we're running it together," said Brenda Coombs, a member since last September. "We take care of an artist's work while he goes out and gets exposure. Lots of our artists

have work throughout the world."

But you don't necessarily have to be an international artist to be a part of the collective. Anyone interested in joining has to display six pieces of art for the members to view.

At the end of two weeks, the collective will decide whether to allow that person to join.

The work of the artists, which is also sometimes featured in local coffee houses, is split between Gallery 2000, Gallery 2000 Plus, and

Somewhat Relevant.

Opened three years ago, Gallery 2000 and Gallery 2000 Plus are located beside each other on the first level of Market Square, and usually have an artist working nearby.

"On Saturday, someone will sit in the middle to paint and keep an eye on both sides," said Coombs.

On other days of the week, the working artist is usually in Gallery 2000, which gives each side wall to the work of one artist, and lets the collective share the back wall.

Constructive art can be

found in Gallery 2000, while more abstract works are featured in Gallery 2000 Plus.

Somewhat Relevant, located on the upper level of the mall, contains the full range of the collective's creations.

"Everything upstairs is a lot more valuable. We tend to baby that one the most," said Coombs.

Coombs sees nothing strange about galleries being housed in a shopping mall.

"The mall circuit is just as good. People tend to see you more, and are

more likely to buy from vendors."

In particular, Coombs likes Market Square because of its downtown location, although she acknowledges that the closing of Eaton's has greatly reduced the flow of people.

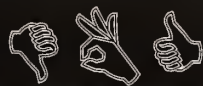
"This mall works for artists. We can get teachers who bring kids to show them that a mall isn't just stores," she said.

"We accent the mall, and the more diverse the mall is, the more variety of people they attract."

Hey!

Photo and stories by Rita Fattila

Spoke



Judas Priest goes for the throat with *Jugulator*

by Amy Sonnenberg

It's finally safe for all closet headbangers to come out and actually enjoy something released after 1990. After suffering a serious metal drought through the '90s, Judas Priest resuscitates us with *Jugulator*, the loudest, heaviest Priest album ever.

Sure, we've had bands like Pantera, Sepultura to churn out some heavy stuff, but *Jugulator* is a far cry from the growling, monotone, vocals of the death metal and thrash genre. Singer Tim "Ripper" Owens can wail with the best of them. In fact, if you didn't know original frontman Rob Halford had left the band, you may have not even noticed the difference. You'll find yourself assessing Owens' merits the first minute of the title track, but once you hear his gut-wrenching scream, there's no doubt that he earned his position as Halford's replacement.

Jugulator, along with track 2 called Blood Stained, is no disappointment to Scott Travis fans. The drummer still has the jaw-dropping speed and talent he displayed in *Painkiller*, Priest's 1990 release.

While *Jugulator* doesn't disappoint the fans who just want to hear about demonic creatures of the night (*Jugulator*) or anthems denouncing oppression (*Dead Meat*), it also may please those who are interested in social issues. *Brain Dead* is a song about euthanasia from the point of view of a patient on life support.

If the lyrics weren't

enough, the band added a footnote in the album sleeve urging people to reconsider euthanasia from a brain-dead patients' perspective.

The song *Death Row* also goes a little deeper than the stereotypical "kill your parents" routine. It's about inmates on death row going through hell while waiting for execution. The band is by no means, however, sympathizing with the prisoners.

The latest Priest effort even gives us a taste of *The X-Files* in a song called *Abductors* which is obviously, about being abducted by aliens and having no one believe your story.

All these and the rest of the 10 tracks were written by the inseparable Glenn Tipton and K.K. Downing, who have been writing Priest's material since day one, nearly 25 years ago.

Not only their writing but their dual guitar approach, which they somewhat pioneered, is heavier than ever.

The release of *Jugulator* is certainly a ray of hope through the dark clouds of Metallica and Megadeth-type sell-outs.

Judas Priest never has and never will compromise their integrity as metal gods, or forget their fans, and heavy metal bands like that are few and far between.

Priest has proven beyond a reasonable doubt that they aren't getting older and sappier like other aging rock bands, they're just getting heavier. ~

Home Video



THE FIFTH ELEMENT

by Natalie Schneider

The newly released home video, *The Fifth Element*, has everything a mainstream Hollywood blockbuster movie needs to rack in the revenue. Huge box office names, special effects and lots of action. But even with those elements, good acting is a must. Although the acting in *The Fifth Element* is not Oscar nomination material, it holds up because of the fast-pace and quick wit of the film.

The movie begins in 1914, where a professor discovers the hidden meaning behind ancient stone carvings. The stones reveal that every 5,000 years, when three planets are in eclipse, a black hole-type doorway will open spreading terror and chaos. This will occur again, in the next 300 years. The only thing that can protect the world from this evil force is the four elements of life: earth, water, fire and wind. A fifth element, a perfect being created to protect life, is also necessary.

The four elements of life, which are encased in stones, plus the perfect being, are then taken by androids from outer space because they are no longer safe on earth. The androids promise to be back with the stones in 300 years when evil returns, with the stones. It sounds far-fetched, but it is a sci-fiction movie - anything can be made believable.

The movie then jumps to 300 years later, in the 23rd century, where we met Korben

Dallas, a taxi driver, played by Bruce Willis. As fate would have it, Dallas meets up with the fifth element, Leelo, played by Milla Jovovich (*Dazed and Confused*), when she falls into his cab trying to escape the police.

As the movie progresses, they team up to find the stones representing the four elements, which have been lost. If an evil being was to take Leelo's place with the stones, the world would become a sinister place.

An essential ingredient in every action movie is conflict, usually in the form of a villain, which in *The Fifth Element* is Zorg, played by Gary Oldman (*Immortal Beloved*). Zorg is a southern-speaking man whose mission is to get his hands on the four stones and deliver them to Mr. Shadow, the evil force who could destroy the world.

It's up to Dallas and Leelo to protect the stones from Zorg and save the world from evil. The last 30 minutes of the movie is filled with non-stop action. Everything imaginable is blown up, shot and destroyed. The elaborate settings, costume designs and action make this a movie worth renting.

The Fifth Element is your typical mind-numbing action flick, filled with quick humor and action-packed effects. It definitely makes a boring Sunday afternoon go by painlessly. ~

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7:30 PM COMEDY

Tickets Only \$10
On Sale at the DSA Office

Licensed Event



Nov. 24 — 1997

Hey, what's going on?

Area concerts for November and December

Kitchener

Centre in the Square

11/24
Jann Arden/Ron Sexsmith
11/25-26
Roger Whittaker
11/27
House of Blues
11/29-30
The Nutcracker Ballet
12/1
Anne Murray
12/21
Al Simmons

The Lyric

12/4
Catherine Wheel
12/7
Goldfinger

The Centre in the Square

11/25-26
Roger Whittaker Tull

Lulu's

11/28
The Fabulous
Thunderbirds/Mel Brown

Raffi Amemiam Theatre

11/27
Alvin Youngblood Hart/Dr.
John/Charlie
Musselwhite/House of
Blues/Robert Jr. Lockwood

Toronto

Lee's Palace

11/26
Fu Manchu
12/1
Switchblade Symphony
12/5
K's Choice
12/26
Headstones
12/31
Mahones

Maple Leaf Gardens

12/14
Neil Diamond

Massey Hall

11/28
Charlie Musselwhite
12/5-6
Roberta Flack
12/6
Colors of Xmas/Jeffrey
Osborne/Melissa
Manchester

The Guvernment

11/27
Acetone/Spiritualized
11/28
The Sundays
12/08
Darryl Hall & John Oates
12/16
Sebastian Bach



photo by Amy Sonnenberg

**Comedian Dave Acer
grabs more than attention
at the Sanctuary Nov. 18.**

The Warehouse

11/25
Blues Traveler/Johnny Lang
11/26
Sugar Ray/311
11/28-29
Great Big Sea
12/07
Andy Smith Band
12/07
Portishead
12/14
Catherine Wheel

Hummingbird Centre

11/28-29
Anne Murray/Jesse Cook

Horseshoe Tavern

11/27
Fabulous Thunderbirds
12/10
Jayhawks

Opera House

11/24
Atari Teenage Riot/EC80R/
Shizuo
11/28
One Step Beyond
12/6
Adrian Sherwood

Guelph

River Run Centre

12/11
Leahy
12/13-14
Burton Cummings

University of Guelph

11/24-26
One Step Beyond

Guelph Civic Centre

11/28-29
Andre Gagnon
12/11
Leahy
12/13-14
Burton Cummings

London

Centennial Hall

11/27-28
Roger Whittaker
12/2
Anne Murray

Spiral Path

11/28
Battlefield Band
12/12-13
Garnet Rogers

Hamilton

Copps Coliseum

12/16
Neil Diamond

Hudson

11/28
Roach Motel

Woodworking

Co-op booth set up at expo

By Jamie Yates

Graduates and work-term students of the woodworking co-op program at Conestoga were given the opportunity to be recognized at the Woodworking Machinery and Supply Expo at the International Centre in Toronto Oct. 31 to Nov. 2.

A woodworking booth was set up at the expo which displayed brochures about Conestoga's woodworking program and about the qualifications of graduates of the program, said John Buss, an engineering technology faculty member.

The woodworking machinery exhibition is one of Canada's largest woodworking events, representing more than 400 international manufacturers and suppliers and displaying new machinery, equipment, products and ideas in the woodworking industry.

Buss said the booth helps co-op employers become aware of the woodworking co-op programs at Conestoga.

"The companies that are at the show are who we train our students for," said Buss. "They hire the students."

The exhibition, said Buss, also creates awareness for the Woodworking Centre of Ontario.

Buss said about 150 to 200 graduates, who are currently involved in the woodworking industry, and co-op students of the woodworking program attended the exhibition.

Students were given a graduate button to wear around the event, said Buss. He said the buttons let prospective employers be aware of the graduates' presence.

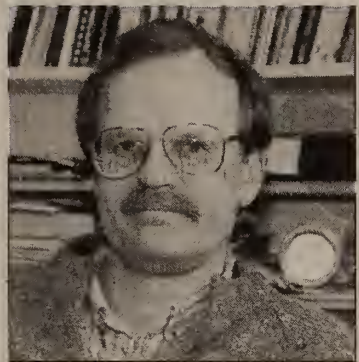
"It raises the profile in the woodworking industry when graduates walk around with a button," he said.

Buss said the buttons also brought customers to the booth.

"The buttons helped bring

customers," he said. "People asked questions about the woodworking program and graduates."

Students in the programs are hired out of the woodworking office at the college, said Buss.



John Buss

(Photo by Jamie Yates)

"The companies that are at the show are who we train our students for. They hire the students."

*John Buss,
engineering technology
faculty member*

"There are about two to three job opportunities per week," he said.

There are currently three woodworking programs at the college, said Buss. He said there is a three-year co-op technical program, a two-year technician program and a one-year machine setter operator program.

Buss said the two- and three-year programs are similar, but the three-year program puts emphasis on engineering-related functions in the woodworking industry while the two-year program is more hands-on.

The one-year program, said Buss, trains students for industrial maintenance and preventative maintenance of machinery.

Good trade means upgrade

By Becky Little

Some of the machines in the woodworking building have been there for 10 years and are outdated or not being used effectively, said a faculty member from the woodworking building.

For this reason, a few trades are being worked out to update the technology in the woodworking building to keep Conestoga students up-to-date with industry standards.

The first trade involves Akhurst Machinery Limited. Conestoga is trading their cut-off saw and double-end tenons (projections that fit into holes) for a computerized point-to-point machine that includes computer control for different heads, and another machine that has yet to be announced, said Mott.

The second trade involves an edgebander that was removed late this summer to be replaced with an updated model by Homag, Mott said.

The third trade, again with Wadkin and Akhurst, will install a moulder multihead that will be replaced every six months.

Mott said one of the nice things about this updating process is that industry people can come in for short-term training and it also benefits full-time students.

He said the total cost of equipment is between \$150,000 to \$200,000, but it is only costing the college \$2,000 to \$3,000 for dust collection, pipes, and electrical changes. The companies involved are taking care of the cost of disconnection and moving the equipment.



Materials management students (back to front) Matt Gore, third year; Patrick Dobbin, third year; Craig Mavin, third year; and Agnes Szukits, second year, patiently await customers at their Caddy for a Day booth.

(Photo by Greg Bisch)

Students volunteer as caddies for a day

By Greg Bisch

Having a caddy for a day was more or less like having a slave for an afternoon, said Patrick Dobbin.

Dobbin, a third-year materials management student, was one of the students running the APICS' student chapter Caddy for a Day fundraiser in the Doon cafeteria.

APICS, the Educational Society for Resource Management, is a international non-profit organization that provides quality education in resource management, said materials management teacher Ian Gordon.

At the Caddy for a Day Nov. 17

to 18 from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m., materials management students sold raffle tickets for Caddy for a Day for \$3, raffle tickets for a \$20 liquor voucher (refundable at the liquor store) for \$3 and lunches in the Blue Room for \$3.

Materials management students involved are also members of one of APICS' eight student chapters.

Winners of the liquor voucher and Caddy for a Day were to be announced Nov. 20.

The next APICS event will be a wine and cheese party, which will be held Nov. 27 from 5 to 7 p.m. in Conestoga's Blue Room. Tickets are \$5 for students, \$10 otherwise.

BOD Meeting
Tues. Nov. 25
4:30 pm
Room 1B23

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Animal rights group expresses concern

Stop killing baby seals, say activists

By Casey Johnson

The International Fund for Animal Welfare has begun its next fight to stop the illegal killing of baby seals, and its mandate also includes making people aware that some of their tax dollars are being used to subsidize the Canadian seal hunt, according to IFAW's October media release.

IFAW said that Canadians are subsidizing an industry that kills baby seals.

The Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries said in a statement that seals taken in the harvest are not babies, but are self-reliant animals.

The government did not clarify what they deem as a baby seal. For example, a hooded seal pup only nurses for approximately three days following birth. After it is weaned, it may well be self-reliant, but it still possesses its white fur coat, which is why they are being killed. Also, a seal may be claimed as fair game at the first sight of molting. A seal can begin its molting process as early as 12 days old.

The Ministry of Fisheries and Oceans said in their Background report that it has been illegal to commercially harvest whitecoat seals in Canada since the 1980s. Individuals caught harvesting whitecoats have been charged in the past and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans will continue to charge anyone who violates this regulation.

The Canadian Sealers Association, which participates in hunting seals, are also legally bound to uphold

this law.

In 1996, the president of the CSA and one-third of its executive members were charged with illegally selling the skins of protected pups, said Rick Smith, the Canadian director of IFAW. Their cases will be heard this year, after a failed attempt at an appeal, said Smith. In total, there were 101 sealers charged that year for selling whitecoats, he added.

"The government has a watered-down opinion of what a whitecoat is," said Smith.

Not only the ethics, but also the economics of the seal hunt has come under scrutiny. A statement from Kitchener MP Karen

"The commercial hunt only added the equivalent of 100 to 120 full-time jobs, and if we eliminate seal meat subsidies, stop trade in seal penises and account for the true costs of labor and capital, the net value of the seal hunt to Canada as a whole may well be zero."

*Clive Southey,
department of economics at the
University of Guelph*

Redman's office states, "the harvest of adult seals provided an estimated \$11 million in economic benefits in 1996. Much of this is concentrated in Newfoundland, where outport communities have been hit hard by the collapse of the fishery. There was a \$1.7 million meat subsidy in 1997. However, due to the strength and growth of the market, the subsidy will be phased out over the remainder of the decade."

In October 1997, Dr. Clive Southey of the University of Guelph's department of economics, said in his analysis of the seal hunt, "the sealing industry double and triple counts key items to arrive at its estimate of the value of the seal hunt. The best estimate of the gross output of the entire industry in 1996 is \$8.96 million. Once you deduct sealer's costs, government subsidies for meat and government costs for inspection, industry support, etc., the net potential benefits drop to \$2.9 million. Value added by the hunt is a mere .06 per cent of the gross domestic product of Newfoundland. The commercial hunt only added the equivalent of 100 to 120 full-time jobs, and if we eliminate seal meat subsidies, stop trade in seal penises and account for the true costs of labor and capital, the net value of the seal hunt to Canada as a whole may well be zero."

As far as sustainability of the seal population is concerned, the Department of Fisheries claims that in 1997, 261,354 harp seals were taken from the total allowable catch of 275,000. And, 7,058

hooded seals were taken from the allowable catch of 8,000.

IFAW claims in 1997, more than 500,000 seals were taken. According to an IFAW rebuttal against a governmental statement concerning the seal hunt, it quotes, "A DFO (Department of Fisheries and Oceans) spokesperson said reports of the overkill were 'overblown' but did not deny sealers exceeded the allowable catch."

Currently, Michelle MacAfee reported in the Globe and Mail Nov. 17, that there is a proposal to

increase this year's allowable catch of seals by 18,000. The recommendation by the Seal Industry Advisory Council that Fisheries Minister David Anderson increase the allowable catch, would make the total number of harp and hooded seals available to be killed in the 1997-98 season around 301,000.

Although the proposal needs to be discussed with several agencies, Anderson plans on releasing his 1998 seal management plan later this year.

World Wildlife Fund targets Canada

By Casey Johnson

The World Wildlife Fund is concentrating on Canadian wilderness this year by suggesting people sponsor an acre of land to help protect 14 of Canada's natural wonders.

WWF, which usually concentrates on rainforests, is suggesting the \$25 a month donation be given as an alternative to a Christmas gift to help aid in the fight to save Canadian heritage.

It's a gift from the heart, said Judi Levita, the media relations manager for WWF Canada.

It's a way to concentrate on Canada's natural heritage, she said.

"We are focusing on these particular hot spots because they are all 'do-able', meaning they are all close to protection," she said.

"Some of these sights have been a governmental discussion for 10 to 12 years now. By focusing attention towards these spots, we hope to motivate the government in finally declaring

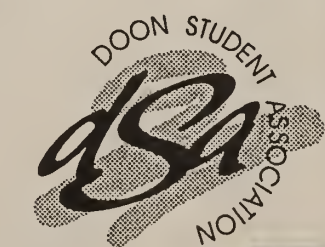
them protected."

The goal of the WWF is to have all 14 spots declared protected by Canada Day 1998.

"Canada Day seemed to be an appropriate date," said Levita. "It is a way to put a bit of pressure on the government as well. It is better to have a confirmed date that says 'this is our goal', than to just keep fighting without putting the government on a deadline."

The 14 sights are: (on land) Tombstone Mountains, in the Yukon; Muskwa-Kechika, B.C.; Whaleback, Alta.; Dore-Smoothstone Lakes Wilderness Area, Sask.; Manitoba Lowlands, Man.; Algoma Highlands, Ont.; Vaureal, Que.; Loch Alva, N.B.; Jim Campbells Barren, N.S.; Little Grand Lake, Nfld. and Labrador; (at sea) The Gully, N.S.; Igalirtuq, N.W.T.; Saguenay, Que.; Gwaii Haanas, B.C.

All inquiries can be directed to the wildlife fund at 1-800-26-PANDA.



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Nov. 17 - Dec. 5



Sports



Chicopee gearing up for new season



Paul Burrell, an employee at Chicopee, cleans off the club's deck after a snowfall Nov. 14.
(Photo by Matt Harris)

By Matt Harris

The ski season is almost upon us, and preparations are well under way at the Chicopee ski club in Kitchener. Although there are no new runs this year, the club's director of skiing, Peter Schwirtlich, said there are still plenty of things to do.

"We have programs to teach snowboarding to adults as well as improved adult racing programs," Schwirtlich said. "Also, we'll have ski schools for all ages throughout the year."

Schwirtlich said the club renewed its rental agreement on the snowboards it had last season, and the pro shop will be offering more parabolic skis to its customers.

Other programs offered at Chicopee this year will be their annual dummy race, an event where people make up costumed dummies on skis and race them down the hill.

"Last year, we had someone enter an Elvis dummy in the race," Schwirtlich said.

He also said there will be family fun races throughout the season. Some of those races will include match-and-win time races, where family members race each other down a run trying to match the other's time. Ski schools for kids will be run in conjunction with the board of education, Schwirtlich said. He figured they average about 400 kids per day in those programs.

"Hopefully in the next few years, we'll be able to pump our own (water) out of the pond we have. That would allow us to triple the output of snow."

*Peter Schwirtlich,
Chicopee's skiing director*

The runs will not be open until the first part of December,

Schwirtlich said, due to the fact the club can't make enough snow to have decent runs.

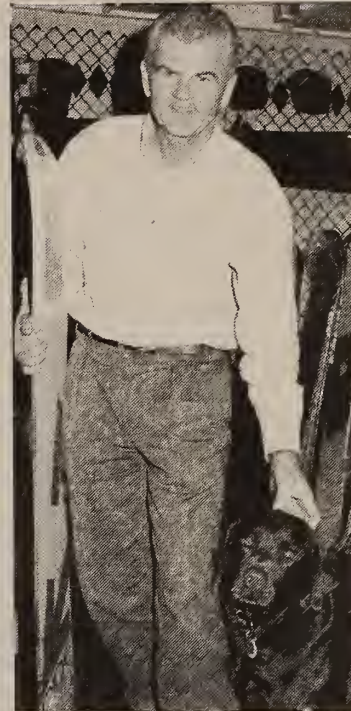
"We can only get about 450 gallons per minute when we pump water from the city for our snow," he said. "Hopefully in the next few years, we'll be able to pump our own out of the pond we have. That would allow us to triple the output of snow."

Those who are looking for cross-country trails will have to look elsewhere. Chicopee only has downhill runs.

Schwirtlich said there is no money in cross-country trails this far south in the province, saying the better trails are up around the Barrie area.

The club has 10 runs in all, ranging from beginner slopes to more challenging runs for the experienced skier. Chicopee also features night skiing, with runs open until 10 p.m. every night except Sunday.

Anyone interested in finding out more on Chicopee may contact Schwirtlich at 894-5501 or via email at schwirt@online.net.



Chicopee Ski Club director of skiing Peter Schwirtlich and his dog, Duke, get ready for the upcoming season.
(Photo by Matt Harris)

'It's like walking on clouds'

More freedom in snowboarding, says enthusiast

By Natalie Schneider

Winter is feared and dreaded by many who spend their time constantly complaining about the weather. With the first signs of winter knocking at our doors, it's better to go with the flow and enjoy the snow.

One way to do so is to participate in a winter activity, that does not include scrapping off ice from the hood of your car.

Instead, have some fun and challenge your skills with snowboarding. Before going out to ride down the snowy slopes, it's important to know what type of riding you want to do.

"In powder, as opposed to skiing where you sink, snowboarders are going fast enough that they'll float right on top of it. It's like walking on clouds, it's an unbelievable feeling."

*Dave Jurkovic,
snowboarding enthusiast*

There are four different types of boards: normal freestyle, free riding, free carving and racing boards.

Normal freestyle usually has a twin tip, meaning it's shaped exactly the same from the center to the tail and the center to the nose, said Dave Jurkovic, an employee at Surf Paradise, located at 106 King St. W., Kitchener.

"Normal freestyle boards make it

easier to ride both ways. Free riding is basically the same style of board in appearance.

But, generally it doesn't have a directional shape, which means the nose will be have a softer flexing than the tail. This gives you snappier ollies and enables you to hold your edge at higher speeds," said Jurkovic.

"Free riding is where it's at, you can do the big jumps and do the cliffs, all that sorts of stuff."

Free carving boards are fairly stiff and narrow, said Jurkovic.

"Free carving boards are really not meant to be in the air too much," he said.

"Then there are racing boards, which depending on what kind of racing you're going to be doing, are extremely narrow and fairly long," said Jurkovic.

"A slalom board will be shorter and have deeper side cuts. But with GS boards they're a little bit longer and turning won't be as quick."

Boards for women are made a little more narrow for smaller feet, and they are softer flexing for lighter weight, Jurkovic said.

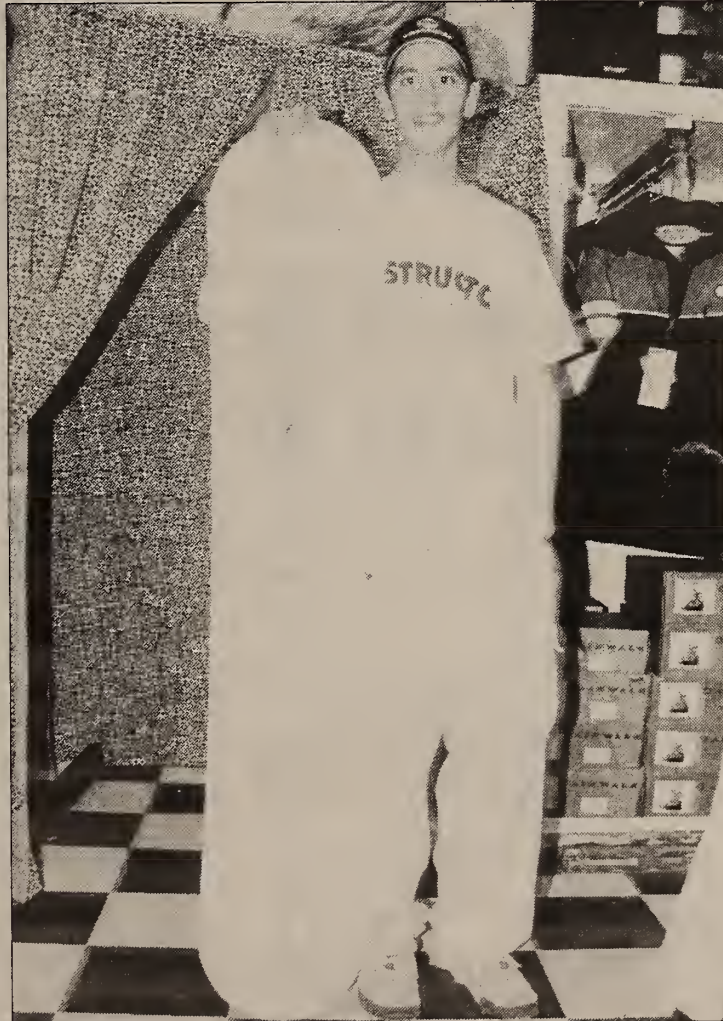
"They are usually a lot more forgiving, because girls tend to use their hips more and guys tend to use their legs more."

It's important to know that if you are buying a board specifically for doing jumps you need soft, flexible boots, while with most racing boards you'll need hard boots, similar to ski boots.

"There are about 400 different companies, but there are only something like 14 manufacturers so a lot of the stuff out there is the same," Jurkovic said.

Snowboards can range in price from \$199 to \$850 with bindings.

In general, you get what you pay



Dave Jurkovic, an employee at Surf Paradise, poses with a snowboard made by SIMS.
(Photo by Natalie Schneider)

for, said Jurkovic. Since a board could be a week's cheque, it's important to ensure you get the most out of it.

Therefore, it's important to take care of it. Jurkovic suggests drying off the rails when you're finished with the board, so the edges don't rust. Plus, he suggests keeping the base waxed.

"Last year, I went through three boards. You can get boards that will last you. I buy a board every year because they keep getting better and it helps my riding. I mean you can get a board and keep it for 10 years, if you want, but in four years it's going to be out-dated," he said.

Jurkovic, who has been boarding

for seven years, said snowboarding can be fairly dangerous at times, depending on what you're doing.

The danger is evident when he points to a picture hanging in the store, in memory of a rider who died in Whistler, B.C., last year.

Safety equipment is available, he said, such as butt pads and helmets.

"There's no real precautions, you just have to use your head, be smart about it," said Jurkovic.

He suggested that before attempting to snowboard, a person should take a lesson or have someone along with you who knows what they're doing.

"The hardest thing about boarding is taking it to the next level.

It's very easy to pick-up, you could be a good-intermediate snowboarder in a few weekends," said Jurkovic.

In comparison to skiing, snowboarding allows you to play around more, said Jurkovic.

"You can jump or go both ways on them," he said. "Parks are built for boarders, encouraging them to jump, which makes it more fun."

"In powder, as opposed to skiing where you sink, snowboarders are going fast enough that they'll float right on top of it. It's like walking on clouds, it's an unbelievable feeling. That's what boards were made for," said Jurkovic.

A final tip before buying a board is to trust the salesperson, said Jurkovic.

"My job is to set the customer up with a snowboard that he, she and I think would be the most useful for them," he said.

"Usually they (salespeople) are not going to take you for a ride. I know Tyler, Mike and myself, want people to enjoy the sport," said Jurkovic.

Students get active with intramurals

By Corina Hill

On a cold November evening, the Kenneth E. Hunter Recreation Centre stands tall in the blistering cold. The silence of the hardwood gymnasium floor is deafening.

All of a sudden, a door opens, bringing with it dozens of laughing voices looking to get some exercise and have some fun.

Slowly, a stereo is rolled onto the gymnasium floor. When the power switch is turned on, the gym fills with loud music and louder voices.

After grabbing a volleyball and settling into six different teams, the weekly session of intramural volleyball begins.

When Conestoga decided to run an intramural program, they did so with the hopes of getting students active, without the pressure of competitive sports.

Marlene Ford, assistant director of athletics and recreation at the college, said some sports such as

volleyball reach the goal of non-competitive sport better than other sports.

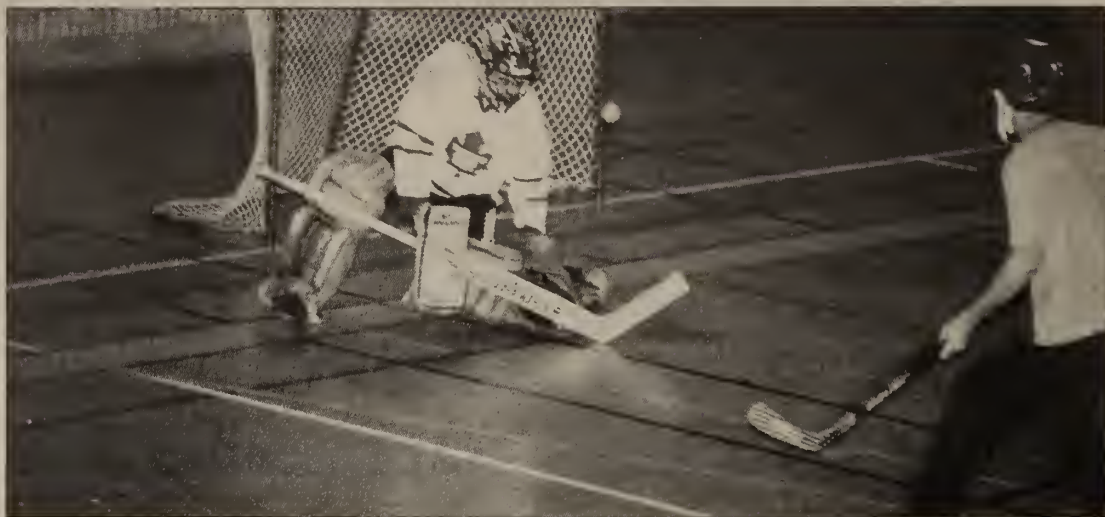
"Volleyball is a good social team sport where everybody gets involved," said Ford. She said that by playing music all night and having no officials, volleyball is one of the most laid back sports.

But don't think that volleyball is the only sport for intramurals at Conestoga. Students are able to play ball hockey, indoor soccer and contact ice hockey as well.

"Intramurals were not designed for competitiveness," said Ford. "They're run for fun."

Although it is too late to sign up for the second session of intramurals, students can look forward to another session starting at the beginning of January.

Co-ed volleyball and basketball will be just two of the sports starting in January. Both volleyball and basketball are considered favorites among students and have



the most number of teams sign up, said Ford.

Intramural sign-ups for this round of volleyball, were so popular that three divisions had to be made to accommodate all the teams.

In division A, the Avengers are leading with the Funky Chickens, Bump and Grind and Team 2-4 following close behind.

In division B, Athletic Supports are on top with teams Dig It!, Fuzzy Bunny, Reckin U and the Spikers trying to take the title.

Yet in division C Medics 1 are in first place. Other teams in this division include These Guys, the Civil Crushers, and Demolition.

Of the six teams signed up for contact ice hockey, Guff leads the group. Close behind is the Mech Warriors, the Panthers, the Mighty

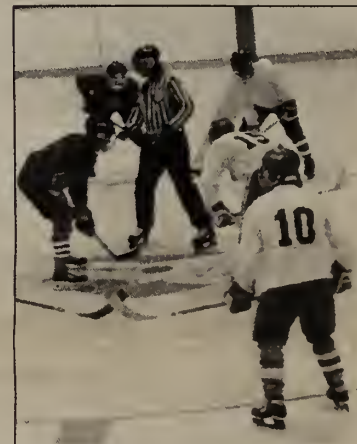
Dunks and Supreme Justice. Finishing off the hockey standings is the Group of Losers who have yet to win a game.

In ball hockey however, there is a larger number of teams. Dinamo and Ball Busters are fighting for first, both having won all three games played giving them nine points. The Gravel Runners, Mechanical Mayhem, Bearded Clams and Groovy Brats are following close behind. The Blue Crew, the Al Bundy Fan Club and the Enforcers are also vying for the ball hockey title.

In co-ed indoor soccer, Bayern Munich has quickly taken the lead. The team won all three games it has played thus having nine points. Other teams in the league include The Celtics, Wham #2, the No Names and the Aces.

Above: A goaltender deflects a shot during intramural ball hockey. (Photo by L.Scott Nicholson)
Below: Players from intramural ice hockey wait at the red line for a face-off Nov. 12.

(Photo by Corina Hill)



Doon Student Association Holiday Celebrations

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the season.
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Tues. Dec. 2 -
Free Refreshments
Twister Tournament

Wed. Dec. 3 -
Christmas Family Feud
Yuk Yuk's Dinner Show

Thurs. Dec. 4 -
Free Nooners

Fri. Dec. 5 -
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More information available
at the DSA Office



A gambler's delight

No entry fee for DSA pools

By Dan Meagher

The Doon Student Association's sports pools are a gambler's delight - lots of prizes but no entry fee.

DSA Director of Student Life Becky Boertien said the pools are meant to be a fun way to create involvement among students.

"It gives the student a way to get involved without being up on a stage in front of everyone."

While personal embarrassment does have its merits, the pools enable sports fans to ply their trade, and even encourage non-sports fans to try their luck.

Currently the DSA is running two pools based on major sports. The NFL pool is a weekly function that merely involves choosing the winners in each week.

Weekly prizes can be had in the NFL pool as well as a midterm and a grand prize, which will be won

by one of the several "regulars", who enter every week, and have a running total going. The range of prizes include various t-shirts and gift certificates from a variety of locations.

The NHL pool is a year-long event, which involved a draft at the beginning of the season, and has over 70 entrants.

Boertien also said that the DSA has planned an NBA pool.

The format of the NBA pool would be similar to the NFL pool, although final details aren't known, and the DSA intends to get it running in the near future. Though it was supposed to begin on Oct. 27, she isn't concerned about the delay.

"The season is so long that a few weeks won't matter anyway," she said. "We don't want people to lose interest half way through."

Length of major sporting league schedules can be a concern Boertien said. With schedules stretching over 80 games in both the NBA and NHL, it can be

difficult to maintain interest over the entire season.

Despite the length of the schedule in the NFL, Boertien said there are roughly the same number of entries each week and its popularity hasn't dwindled at all.

Boertien has a theory to explain the success of the pools. "It's a way to participate without having to pay."

Noting the vast number of expenses placed upon students at the college, Boertien said that it's nice to have something available to them that is 100 per cent cost free.

The lack of an entry fee is also a decent way to avoid criticism from the anti-gambling types. The DSA pools are intended to be a harmless way to reach more students, Boertien said, with fun being the main goal.

The only trouble the student encounters is the trek down to the DSA office to fill in their entry and the possible embarrassment of appearing in last place in the weekly updates.

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MEN'S HOCKEY LEAGUE STANDINGS

TEAM	GP	W	L	T	PTS
Conestoga	4	4	0	0	8
Cambrian	2	2	0	0	4
Seneca	4	2	2	0	4
S.S. Fleming	3	1	2	0	2
Boreal	4	1	3	0	2
Sault	5	1	4	0	2

INDIVIDUAL STANDINGS

NAME	TEAM	GP	PTS
Darryl Sinclair	CON	4	16
Chris Palubeski	CON	4	13
Matt Goodburn	CON	4	11
Jeff Kilb	SEN	4	8
Geoff Smith	SEN	4	7
Mike Senior	CAM	2	7

LEAGUE RESULTS

Nov. 12	Cambrian 11	Boreal 1
Nov. 13	S.S. Fleming 5	Seneca 7
Nov. 15	Sault 6	Boreal 3

Jock Talk

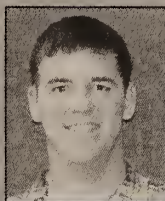
Coaches are easy scapegoats

I heard an interesting rumor recently. Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones has reportedly been in conversation with former San Francisco 49ers coach George Seifert about taking over as coach next season. An interesting development when you consider how much Jones hates the 49ers organization.

But that must be the way things go in the coaching ranks these days. Jones has said the Cowboys' current coach, Barry "I'm-totin'-a-gun" Switzer, is secure in his post for the time being. However, Jones himself has said nothing less than Super Bowl victories are acceptable. The sentiment is that Switzer will be on the next train out of Dallas and if I were him, I'd be waiting on the platform soon.

There should be a disclaimer on a coach's contract, stating there may be some emotional distress, even if you win more than you lose. Baltimore Orioles coach Davey Johnson knows that as well as anyone. Although he publicly said he felt his team was good enough to win a world series title for owner Peter Angelous, the blame cannot rest squarely on his shoulders. After all, I never saw him fill in for any of his players on the field.

The Vancouver Canucks grew



Matt Harris

tired of losing and did something about it when they fired head coach Tom Renney. Only thing wrong about that is the wrong guy is leaving town. The Canucks' payroll is too high to have such underachieving players like Pavel Bure and Alexander Mogilny making millions of dollars a year. Renney did as good a job with the players he had as anyone could have. The Canucks replaced him with 'Iron' Mike Keenan. There is no question that Keenan knows hockey, but can he now light a flame under the team? It's doubtful at best.

Even when a coach succeeds, he may not win in the end. Jim Leyland took the Florida Marlins to the World Series title this

In general, owners expect too much of the men they assign to coach their teams.

They are fallible, just like the players. But the mistakes are almost always pinned on the coach's shoulders.

season. His reward: owner Wayne Huizenga is already cutting costs. Playoff hero Moises Alou was dealt to Houston for next to nothing, leaving Leyland to wonder how he will be replaced.

This is not to say the manager is totally devoid of responsibility on a team. His task is to get his players to perform as well as possible. When a player gets hurt, fans and owners expect the coach to make things all right. The last coach of any significance who could step into the lineup himself and make an impact was Celtics legend Bill Russell, who was Boston's player-coach near the end of his career.

In general, owners expect way too much of the men they assign to coach their teams. They are fallible, just like the players. But the mistakes are almost always pinned on the coach's shoulders.

I'd like to see Jones hire Seifert as the Cowboys' coach for a number of reasons. First, it's time Switzer left anyway. The players don't respect him anymore, if they ever did. Second, Seifert knows how to coach. He took the 49ers to two Super Bowls and has one of the best winning percentages for a head coach ever. And that just didn't seem to be enough for San Francisco president Carmen Policy.

Funny how these things work out, isn't it?

DSA trips offer variety of sports

By Matt Harris

What do the Toronto Blue Jays, the Buffalo Bills and the Toronto Raptors have in common with Conestoga College?

Nothing really, but students from the college have gone to see these teams play over the past few years, courtesy of the Doon Student Association (DSA).

"We accept the students' ideas about trips, and the response determines whether or not we go," said Becky Boertien, the DSA's director of student life.

"In the past, we've gone to Jays games, gone skiing at Blue Mountain, and tried to get tickets to Leaf games."

Although the DSA does not keep records of who goes with the college on the trips, Boertien said returning students who went on a trip the year before tend to go on them a second time.

"They tend to remember the good time they had on the trip," she said.

Students who have registered to go on the trip may bring one guest, Boertien said, but they may bring more if the trip does not sell out.

"We don't make any money on these trips. Usually we break even in terms of the cost," she said.

"The organizations give us a group rate on the tickets, which is good for the students. The differential in the prices is about \$5 to \$8."

The DSA usually makes arrangements for trips to professional teams months in advance of the date.

Boertien said the DSA ordered the tickets to the Buffalo Bills game against the Miami Dolphins in July. She also said tickets to Leaf games were ordered in September.

"For something like a ski trip to Blue Mountain, we only need to give them a few weeks notice," she said.

According to Boertien, the upcoming trip to see the Buffalo Sabres play Eric Lindros and the Philadelphia Flyers demonstrates the DSA's efforts to get tickets for high-profile matchups which the students want to see.

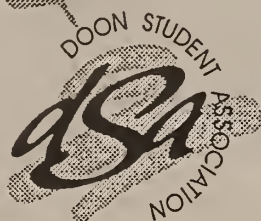
"In the new year, we have two trips planned to see the Raptors play because we couldn't get enough tickets to one game," Boertien said.

Students are expected to follow certain rules while on a trip, she said. There is no alcohol and no smoking allowed on the bus, a rule designed to avoid trouble crossing the boarder.

Eric Lindros & the Flyers

Wednesday, November 26 vs Buffalo Sabres

Tickets On Sale Today at the DSA Office





Short track speed skaters toe into the ice and get ready for the starter's pistol at the Waterloo Recreation Complex Nov. 15.

(Photo by L. Scott Nicholson)



Showing perfect form, speed skaters round a corner in pursuit of the leader at the Waterloo Recreation Complex Nov. 15.

(Photo by L. Scott Nicholson)

K-W speed skaters showcase talents

By L. Scott Nicholson

The fast-paced, exciting action of short track speed skating presented itself to spectators at the Waterloo Recreation Complex, Nov. 15 and 16, as the Kitchener-Waterloo Sertoma Speed Skating Club hosted the Marion Hanje Fall Classic Speed Skating Meet.

Club president Doug Flynn said the club has been hosting meets since it was formed in 1963, usually to coincide with the Oktoberfest events. However, with the death of one of the club's founding members, Marion Hanje, four years ago, Flynn said he felt it would be nice to pay tribute to Hanje by naming the meet after her.

"Marion did all of the scheduling and equipment management for the club," Flynn said.

Competitors at the meet were quite literally of all levels. Kayli Hunt, a member of the host K-W club, competed in the seven-and-under Pee Wee category; Al Rose of Ottawa, who at 74, travels the province in his trailer home going from meet to meet, competed in the Masters division; Eric Flaim, 30, of Pembroke, Mass., who is a three-time Olympian, competed in the men's Open A division; and Laura Gourley, competed as a Special Olympian.

Short track speed skating, unlike its long track cousin, is usually held in a hockey arena, where skaters move at speeds of 50 to 60 kilometres per hour and round corners with their bodies almost parallel to the ice surface. Despite an

expected poor spectator turnout, Flynn was impressed with how well the weekend went.

"Everything ran smoothly apart from a few technical difficulties with new computer programs and printers that couldn't print results quick enough," Flynn said.

"Prior planning really helped move things along."

Flynn said the meet was a good trial run for the 1999 national championships, which the K-W club is hosting.

"The nationals will be run similar to this meet, only on a larger scale," he said. Volunteers from the host club, as well as from other groups, were also responsible for the meet's success.

Steve Caron, a member of the K-W club, whose children are also involved in the sport, spent his weekend watching his children compete while he also passed buckets of water to officials on the ice to be poured into the corners to prevent further gouging of the ice.

Caron said he couldn't think of a better family sport.

"You can get involved in the competitive aspect of the sport or just for its recreational purposes," he said.

Caron said he was hooked on the sport after watching his children and finally decided to tie on a pair of the club's unusually long-bladed skates.

There were a few bumps and bruises along the way, he said, but he enjoyed every moment.

"When skating fast and in control, there is a beautiful rhythm."

Flaim burns for Olympics

By L. Scott Nicholson

As he jogged warm-up laps around the track at the top of the Waterloo Recreation Complex, Eric Flaim appeared by all matters of appearance to be just another anxious speed skater.

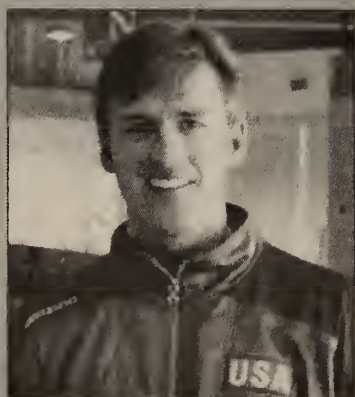
What distinguished Flaim from all other skaters in attendance was that he is a three-time Olympian, on the verge of becoming a four-time Olympian.

Flaim said he joined his Boston area club for the meet, at the Waterloo Recreation Complex on Nov. 15 and 16, because he was tired of just training and wanted to actually compete against other skaters.

The native of Pembroke, Mass., near Boston, said he started speed skating in 1979 at the age of 12, and by 1987, he was on the American national team.

In 1988, Flaim competed in the Calgary Olympics where he was a silver medallist in the long track competition and again in 1992 at the Albertville, France Olympics, where he earned a silver in the short track relay.

Flaim, now 30, had other things on his mind in Waterloo. Despite winning previous Olympic medals, Flaim said his priority



Eric Flaim, Olympic speed skater. (Photo by L. Scott Nicholson)

now is to make the American national team that will be travelling to Nagano, Japan, in February for the Olympics.

Flaim said he left his home in Boston in August to go to Colorado Springs, Col., where the national team's training facilities are located.

Flaim said there are 12 world class skaters vying for a spot on the national team, however, only five or six will be fortunate enough to go to Nagano.

Flaim and other short track Olympic hopefuls will face off against one another in January at Lake Placid, N.Y. for the Olympic trials.

"I just hope my training, both mental and physical, peak at the right time," he said.

Flaim, who at five-foot, six inches, isn't the typical height of an Olympian, but makes up for it with immense, tree trunk quadriceps, said his training regime for the Olympics is very intense.

"We're on the ice every morning for two hours of skating and then in the afternoons it could be weight training, stationary cycling or plyometrics (a series of explosive jumping movements)."

Although briefly retiring in 1995 from competitive ice speed skating, Flaim kept himself busy with other ventures, one of which included competing professionally as an in-line skater and commenting for the ESPN X-games in-line skating segment.

When asked if he had a preference for long track, short track or in-line speed skating, Flaim said he liked all three, but in terms of training he enjoyed short track.

"Short track training is a lot more fun," he said.

"In short track, you get to train with a group, where as in long track, the training was more individual and it became very monotonous," he said.



Eric Flaim at the Waterloo Recreation Complex Nov. 15.

(Photo by L. Scott Nicholson)